

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 11664 261707Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 PC-01 /092 W
-----059646 270209Z /62

R 261703Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8447
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY NAIMEY
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS EG CH
SUBJECT: CHADIAN STUDENTS "OCCUPY" CHAD EMBASSY IN CAIRO

SUMMARY. CHADIAN STUDENTS IN CAIRO STAGED DISTURBANCE
AT CHADIAN EMBASSY APRIL 24 IN SUPPORT OF FROLINAT.
STUDENTS ALSO MADE DEMARCHES TO LOCALLY BASED WESTERN
JOURNALISTS. EGYPTIAN MFA OFFICIAL DOWNPLAYED INCIDENT,
ALTHOUGH GOE DOUBTLESS SEES DISTURBANCE AS PART OF
LIBYAN-FINANCED CAMPAIGN. END SUMMARY.

1. BBC REPORTED EVENING APRIL 24 THAT 300 CHADIAN
STUDENTS STUDYING IN CAIRO OCCUPIED CHADIAN EMBASSY
SAME DAY IN PROTEST AGAINST INTERVENTION OF "FOREIGN
FORCES" IN CHAD TO PROTECT REGIME OF PRESIDENT FELIX
MALLOUM. CAIRO DAILIES DID NOT MENTION CHADIAN STORY
APRIL 25, BUT LEFTIST AL AHALI APRIL 26 REPORTED OCCU-
PATION OF EMBASSY AND RENEWAL OF FIGHTING BETWEEN
FROLINAT FORCES AND GOVERNMENT TROOPS, IN VIOLATION OF
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MARCH 27 SEBHA CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT.

2. RESIDENT JOURNALIST TELLS US 3 CHADIAN STUDENTS
WENT AROUND TO FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AFTERNOON APRIL 24
TO SEEK PUBLICIZE INCIDENT. THEY CLAIMED NOT ONLY
FRENCH, BUT EGYPTIAN, SUDANESE AND IRANIAN TROOPS WERE
IN CHAD. JOURNALIST SAID THEY WERE NOT REVOLUTIONARY

TYPES BUT APPEARED TO BE GOING THROUGH THE MOTION,
PROBABLY UNDER INSTRUCTION.

3. DURING BRIEF CONVERSATION APRIL 26, MFA AFRICAN
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR AHMED SIDQI DISMISSED INCIDENT,
COMMENTING THAT 25 CHADIAN STUDENTS HAD GONE TO EMBASSY,
AND 5 STUDENTS HAD BEEN ALLOWED IN TO SEE AMBASSADOR.
AMBASSADOR HAD CONFERRED WITH EGYPTIAN MFA OFFICIALS
CONCERNING INCIDENT MORNING APRIL 25 BUT SITUATION HAD
RETURNED TO NORMAL BY AFTERNOON OF THAT DAY.

3. COMMENT: PROTEST AT EMBASSY EMBARRASSING TO GOE,
AS STUDENTS WERE SUPPORTING LIBYAN-BACKED FROLINAT. GOE
PROBABLY BELIEVES LIBYANS FINANCED IT AS PART OF
WIDER PRO-FROLINAT CAMPAIGN. ESTABLISHMENT PRESS IG-
NORING INCIDENT AND GOE LIKELY TO TAKE STEPS TO INSURE
THAT STUDENTS MAKE NO FURTHER PROTEST. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, EMBASSIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO11664
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780179-0612
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780417/aaaaanjh.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5f52bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2847534
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHADIAN STUDENTS \"OCCUPY\" CHAD EMBASSY IN CAIRO SUMMARY. CHADIAN STUDENTS IN CAIRO STAGED DISTURBANCE AT CHADIAN EMBASSY APRIL 24 IN SUPPORT OF FROL INAT
TAGS: PINS, EG, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5f52bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014